LIONEL RIVERA
MAYOR

CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS

March 23, 2005

Mr. Fred Phelps
Westboro Baptist Church
3701 SW 12th Street
Topeka, Kansas 66604

Your recent visit to our City helped highlight how fortunate we are to have so many community minded and supportive organizations located and headquartered in Colorado Springs. We are even more fortunate that your group does not call our beautiful City home.

Your message of hate and discrimination is not welcome in Colorado Springs, and I can't imagine that it is welcome in your own hometown, nor in any other city in our nation. I support Vice Mayor Skorman's sentiments denouncing your speech and demonstration the last time you were here and reiterate those sentiments if you plan to return.

Your first amendment rights have been and will be respected in Colorado Springs, but your message is not.

Respectfully,

Lionel Rivera
Mayor

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